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REMARKS

The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of objection and/or rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants assert that the present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

Claims 1-32 are pending in the application. Claims 1-32 have been rejected. Claims 4, 9, 14, 19, 24 and 29-32 have been amended.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-7, 9-12, 14-17, 19-22, 24-27 and 29-32 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as being anticipated by Jewell et al. (U.S. 7,075,564 B1, hereinafter "Jewell"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections due to the fact that the cited reference neither teaches nor suggests all the claim limitations of independent claims 1, 9, 14, 19, 24, 29 and 31-32 as filed. However, in the interest of expediting the prosecution of the present Application, Applicants have voluntarily amended independent claims 9, 14, 19, 24, 29 and 31-32 to further define what the Applicants consider to be the invention.

More specifically independent claims 1, 9, 14, 19, 24, 29 and 31-32 recite (after amendment):

1. "A multimedia communication system comprising:
a host computer; and
a unit external to said host computer and connected to said host computer via an external bus, said unit configured to capture a video stream from a video input device, to convert said captured video stream according to a predetermined standard for transmitting video over a network, and to send said converted video stream to said host computer via said external bus.

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wherein said host computer is configured to display content of said converted video stream on a local video output device and substantially concurrently to send said content of said converted video stream for a remote display."

9. "A multimedia communication system for a host computer having an external bus and connected to a video output device, the system comprising:

a unit external to said host computer and connected to said host computer via said external bus, said unit configured to capture a video stream from a video input device, to convert said captured video stream according to a predetermined standard for transmitting video over a network, and to send said converted video stream to said host computer via said external bus;

a software video decoder installed on said host computer, said software video decoder configured to decode said converted video stream for display by said video output device; and

wherein said host computer is configured to display content of said converted video stream on a local video output device and substantially concurrently to send said content of said converted video stream for remote display."

14. "A multimedia communication system for a host computer having an external bus and connected to a video output device, said host computer connected to a network and configured to receive via said network at least one encoded video stream, the system comprising:

a unit external to said host computer and connected to said host computer via said external bus, said unit configured to capture a raw video stream from a video input device, to convert said captured video stream according to a predetermined standard for transmitting video over a network, and to send said converted video stream to said host computer via said external bus;

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a software video decoder installed on said host computer, said software video decoder configured to decode at least one of said at least one encoded video stream for display by said video output device; and

wherein said host computer is configured to display content of said converted video stream on a local video output device and substantially concurrently to send said content of said converted video stream for remote display."

19. "A multimedia communication system for a host computer having an external bus and connected to a video output device, said host computer connected to a network and configured to receive via said network at least one encoded video stream, the system comprising:

a unit external to said host computer and connected to said host computer via said external bus, said unit configured to capture a video stream from a video input device, to convert said captured video stream according to a predetermined standard for transmitting video over a network, and to send said converted video stream to said host computer via said external bus, said unit also configured to compress said captured video stream, and to send said compressed video stream to said host computer via said external bus;

a first software video decoder installed on said host computer, said first software video decoder configured to decode at least one of said at least one encoded video stream for display by said video output device;

a second software video decoder installed on said host computer, said second software video decoder configured to decompress said compressed video stream for display by said video output device; and

wherein said host computer is configured to display content of said converted video stream on a local video output device and substantially concurrently to send said content of said converted video stream for remote display."

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24. "A multimedia communication system for a host computer having an application installed thereon, said application having data associated therewith, said host computer having an external bus, the system comprising:

a unit external to said host computer and connected to said host computer via said external bus, said unit configured to capture a video stream from a video input device, to convert said captured video stream according to a predetermined standard for transmitting video over a network, and to send said converted video stream to said host computer via said external bus;

a software multiplexer installed on said host computer for multiplexing said converted video stream with said data; and

wherein said host computer is configured to display content of said converted video stream on a local video output device and substantially concurrently to send said content of said converted video stream for remote display."

29. "A method for multimedia communication, the method comprising the steps of:
capturing a video stream from a video input device;
converting said video stream according to a predetermined standard for transmitting video over a network;

sending said converted video stream to a host computer via an external bus of said host computer;

decoding said converted video stream in said host computer;

displaying content of said decoded video stream on a local output video device;

and

sending said converted video stream to a remote terminal over a network; and

displaying content of said converted video stream on a local video output device while substantially concurrently sending said content of said converted video stream for remote display."

31. "A multimedia communication system comprising:
a host computer; and

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a unit external to said host computer and connected to said host computer via an external bus, said unit configured to capture a video stream from a video input device, to convert said captured video stream according to a predetermined standard for transmitting video over a network, and to send said converted video stream to said host computer via said external bus,

wherein said host computer further comprises a decoder configured to decode said converted video stream for display by a local video output device and to concurrently decode a second coded video stream received from a remote video source for display by said local video output device; and

wherein said host computer is configured to display content of said converted video streams on a local video output device and substantially concurrently to send said content of said converted video stream for remote display."

32. "A multimedia communication system comprising:

a host computer;

a unit external to said host computer and connected to said host computer via an external bus, said unit configured to capture a video stream from a video input device, to convert said captured video stream according to a predetermined standard for transmitting video over a network, and to send said converted video stream to said host computer via said external bus,

wherein said unit is configured to capture an audio stream from a local audio input device, and to send said audio stream to said host computer via said external bus, said host computer further comprises a decoder configured to decode a converted audio stream from a remote audio coded source for play by a local audio output device and to concurrently play said audio stream from said local audio input device by said local audio output device; and

wherein said host computer is configured to display content of said converted video stream on a local video output device and substantially concurrently to send said content of said converted video stream for remote display."

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Whereas the cited reference teaches:

"A video conferencing circuit (12) is configured to receive an input (26) from one of a plurality of video input devices. The video signal is then stored, compressed and transmitted by an interface circuit such as a modem (18). Video signals from a remote location are received from the modem (18), decompressed, stored and then transferred for display on one of a plurality of video output devices." (Jewel Abstract)

As is well established, in order to successfully assert a prima facie case of anticipation, the Examiner must provide a single prior art document that includes every element and limitation of the claim or claims being rejected. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims, however, in the interest of expediting the prosecution of the present application, applicants have voluntarily amended independent claims 9, 14, 19, 24, 29 and 31-32 by incorporating into them a limitation of independent claim 1 which is neither taught nor suggested in the Jewel reference. More specifically, Applicants have amended the claims to now recite in part "... *host computer is configured to display content of said converted video stream on a local video output device and substantially concurrently to send said content of said converted video stream for remote display.*"

Applicants respectfully assert that no new matter has been added as a result of this amendment. Applicants have made this amendment only in the interest of expediting the prosecution of the present Application and therefore, reserve all rights to file continuation patent applications with claims having similar or broader scope.

Applicants respectfully assert that the Jewel reference is not sufficient as a single prior art document for the purpose of establishing a prima facie case of anticipation. The cited reference neither teaches nor suggests every element and limitation of independent claim 1, or independent claims 9, 14, 19, 24, 29 and 31-32 after amendment. More specifically, Applicants would like to point out to the Examiner that the cited reference fails to teach the above stated limitation of a host computer which is "...configured to display content of said converted video stream on a local video output device *and substantially concurrently to send said content of said converted video stream for remote display.*".

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In the office action the Examiner cited the following section of the Jewel reference, in support of his 102 rejection, pertaining to the above limitation of the present invention:

"The video processing means 35 includes the Processor 40 as well as the support circuit 48 and the bus control 36. It also includes the processor Memory 18 and the EEPROM 16 if provided. The video processing means 35 and more specifically the Processor circuitry 40 directs the encoded digital video data to the remote interface circuit 19. The remote interface circuit 19 is any suitable circuit to transmit and receive video conferencing signals to and from a remote source. That is, the remote interface circuit 19 is configured to receive video signals and preferably voice signals from a remote source to effect what may be referred to as video conferencing. The outgoing video signals as well as audio signals are sent to a remote location which ideally is returning similar video signals and audio signals for processing by the ASIC and for presentation as a video signal on a selected video display or output device. The remote interface means 19 is here illustrated to include the MODEM 22 and Audio circuit 20." (Jewel col. 4 lines 39-52).

Applicants respectfully assert that the above recite, merely mentions the *sending* of acquired video data and receiving video data from a remote location. It makes no mention of both *presenting* and *sending* locally acquired video data 'substantially concurrently'.

Applicants respectfully assert that the above stated voluntary amendments and remarks, render independent claims 1, 9, 14, 19, 24, 29 and 31-32 allowable over Jewel under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 9, 14, 19, 24, 29 and 31-32 and all claims dependent directly or indirectly upon them.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 8, 13, 18, 23 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Jewel in view of Clapp et al. (US 5,802,281). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims over Jewel in view of Clapp et al. (US 5,802,281), because a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established. Furthermore,

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in light of the foregoing remarks regarding the 102 rejections, Applicants respectfully assert that claims 8, 13, 18, 23 and 28 under 35 are considered allowable by virtue of their dependence on allowable base claims.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the pending claims are considered to be allowable. Their favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

/Yair Shachar/
Inventor and Applicant

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